

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 /048 W  
----- 048461

R 090427Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 226

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 6075

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS

SUBJECT: KHMER AIR FORCE (AKAF) EQUIPMENT STATUS

FOLLOWING MSG TRANSMITTED ACTION CINCPAC INFO CINCPAC, USSAG /7AF  
CSAF, AFLC WPAFB, AFSC ANDREWS AFB, TAC LANGLEY, MACTHAI DTL BKK,  
SECDEF WASHDC, JCS, DIA, JLO SAMAE SAN TH, 7AF SO UTAPAO , 635  
CSG UTAPAO 08 APR 75 (P 081215Z APR 75) REPOTD FOR YOUR INFO QUOTE  
SUBJ: KHMER AIR FORCE (KAF) EQUIPMENT STATUS (U)

1. (C) KAF AIRCRAFT STATUS AS OF 0700 8 APR 75 IS AS FOLLOWS:

POSSESSED OUT THAI- POCHEN- O/R NORM CBD NORS

STATIONS LAND TONG

C-47	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
AC-47	15	2	3	10	3	3	4	0
T-28D	58	11	24	23	11	5	7	0
T-28B	15	0	15	-	-	-	-	0
C-123K	12	0	5	7	4	1	2	0
AU-24	12	3	1	8	5	2	-	0
UH-1H	25	3	4	18	12	3	2	1
0-1	24	6	3	15	10	2	2	1

(NORS ITES ARE DAMPNER FOR UH-1 AND PROPELLER FOR 0-1)

2. (S) KAF MORALE IS GENERALLY SATISFACTORY, HOWEVER, THERE HAS BEEN  
A NOTICABLE DECLINE DURING THE PAST WEEK. THIS IS INDICATED BY AN  
INCREASE IN THE PILOT FACTOR WRITE-UP SUCH AS "ROUGH ENGINE",  
"STIFF CONTROL", ETC., AND GENERAL COMMENTS ABOUT THE OVERALL  
SITUATION. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS FROM THE PILOTS  
THAT THEIR CAS AIRSTRIKES DO NO GOOD BECAUSE FANK NEVER MOVES  
FORWARD. THERE SEEMS TO BE A FEELING AMONG THE PILOTS THAT FANK

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USES THE AIRSTRIKES ONLY TO LESSEN PRESSURE ON THE FANK DEFENSIVE

POSITIONS AND NEVER TO ACCOMPLISH ANY OFFENSIVE EFFORT. MORALE AMONG THE MAINTENANCE FORCE WAS ALREADY WANING BECAUSE OF THE CONSTANT ROCKET PRESSURE, HOWEVER, IT HAS LOWERED AGAIN WITH THE REALIZATION THAT ALL LMAT AND THAT ALL AIR FORCE DIVISION PERSONNEL EXCEPT ONE HAVE DEPARTED. THE KAF DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE CONTINUALLY ASKS THE STATUS OF, AND WHEN WE WILL BRING IN A USAF MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN. HIS PEOPLE CAN ACCOMPLISH THE MAINTENANCE, BUT THEY NEED SOME MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT SUCH AS WAS BEING PROVIDED BY LMAT AND THE PREVIOUS USAF TECHNICIANS. ONE ACTION ON USAF PART THAT WOULD DO MOST TO INSTANTLY BOOST THE KAF MORALE WOULD BE TO DAILY BRING IN ONE OF THE USAF MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS FROM THAILAND WHO WERE PREVIOUSLY HERE TDY. HOWEVER, CURRENT RESTRICTIONS HERE MAKE SUCH A POSSIBILITY COMPLETELY OUT OF THE QUESTION.

3. (U) SINCE STARTING TO USE BIRD C-130 BACKHAUL TO EVACUATE REPAIRABLE EQUIPMENT, WE HAVE MOVED 16 PALLETS CONTAINING 16 REPAIRABLE ENGINES, TWO 0-1'S, ONE T-28, AND THREE T-28 WING SECTIONS. PRESENTLY WE HAVE REMAINING TWO T-28'S, ONE AU-24, AND APPROXIMATELY TEN ENGINES TO PALLETIZE. ESTIMATE COMPLETION IN TWO OR THREE DAYS. THE EFFORTS OF THE CARGO HANDLERS HERE, AND COL BAGINSKI'S PERSONNEL AT UTAPAO HAVE BEEN OUTSTANDING IN MOVING THIS EQUIPMENT.

4. (U) OF THE KAF NORM AND CBD AIRCRAFT CLEARED FOR A ONE-TIME FLIGHT TO THAI-AM BANGKOK FOR EXPEDITED MAINTENANCE, SIX T-28D'S AND THREE C-123'S HAVE BEEN FLOWN OUT. TWO ADDITIONAL T-28D'S AND ONE C-47 WILL DEPART 8 APR; TWO AC-47'S ESTIMATED TO DEPART 9 APRIL; AND ONE C-123 ESTIMATED TO DEPART 11 APRIL.

5. (C) THERE WAS NO ADDITIONAL SHARPNEEL DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT 7 APR, HOWEVER A 105MM ROUND IMPACTED IN THE AMMO DUMP APPROXIMATELY 1600L, 7 APR, AND DESTROYED 85 B6U-32'S. THE KAF HAD A GOOD DAY 7 APR WITH 144 TOTAL TAC AIR SORTIES, RESULTING IN 97 KBA, 7 SAMPANS DESTROYED, 55 BUNKERS DESTROYED AND ONE FIVE-MINUTE SECONDARY EXPLOSION.

GDS: 31 DEC 83

UNQUOTE.

DEAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EQUIPMENT, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, MILITARY PERSONNEL, PERSONNEL CONDUCT, AIR FORCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**TAGS:** MASS, CB  
**To:** STATE  
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